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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/790,091	03/02/2004	Eun-sook Kang	46187	1204

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EXAMINER

AMINI, JAVID A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2628

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06/01/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/790,091	KANG, EUN-SOOK
	Examiner Javid A. Amini	Art Unit 2628

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).

Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 March 2007.

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-19 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-19 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____

5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) Other: _____

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 3/15/2007 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant on page 6 of the remarks under claim rejection 35U.S.C. 112 has amended the claims to address each point of the rejection.

Examiner's reply: The rejected claims 12-14 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph have been withdrawn in view of the amendments.

Applicant on page 7 of the remarks at second paragraph argues that the reference Nishikawa does not teach each element of the claimed invention, also Nishikawa's enlargement ratio is not determined based on the number of pixels in an image as recited in independent claims 1, 6, 12 and 15.

Examiner's reply: Nishikawa at col. 15 lines 22-27 clearly discloses, "if the graphic engine is a 16-bit graphic engine and a 600-dpi (examiner's note: dpi stands for dot per inch, and dot means pixel) A4 landscape-size image is to be enlarged ten times, the number of pixels in the horizontal direction will be 10x600 (dot/inch) x296 (mm)/25.4 (mm/inch)=69,921 dots.

Applicant on same page at forth paragraph argues that the reference (see col. 10, ln. 35-50, and col. 11, ln 1-5, Nishikawa) stated that his enlargement ratio is not determined based on the number of pixels in an image.

Examiner's reply: There is no such a statement made by Nishikawa in mentioned columns (i.e. col. 10, ln. 35-50, and col. 11, ln. 1-5).

Applicant on page 8 at second paragraph argues with a similar argument as set at previous pages.

Applicant on page 8 regarding claim 6, argues with a similar argument as set at previous pages.

Applicant on page 9 regarding claims 12 and 15 argues with similar arguments as set at previous pages.

Applicant on page 10 at first paragraph argues that the second reference Ishizaka does not teach a method of determining an enlargement ratio corresponding to the determined number of pixels.

Examiner's reply: Ishizaka at [0026] discloses that "according to the invention, there is provided an image processing apparatus for performing enlargement processing of an original image represented by a large number of pixels to provide an enlarged image".

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the

reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

Claims 1, 5-6, 10, 12, 14-15, and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Nishikawa et al. US 6,507,411 B1.

1. Re. claim 1.

Nishikawa in figs. 10 and 11 illustrates a method of enlarging an image and (see Nishikawa in fig. 17 steps 17.4-17.6) printing an enlarged image, the method comprising: (Nishikawa in fig. 2 using the image data generated by the application 201) identifying an image file having an image to be enlarged and printed. Nishikawa at col. 15 lines 15-30 discloses determining the number of pixels of the image using the identified image file. Nishikawa at col. 15 lines 22-27 clearly discloses, “if the graphic engine is a 16-bit graphic engine and a 600-dpi (examiner’s note: dpi stands for dot per inch, and dot means pixel) A4 landscape-size image is to be enlarged ten times, the number of pixels in the horizontal direction will be 10x600 (dot/inch) x296 (mm)/25.4 (mm/inch)=69,921 dots. Nishikawa in fig. 18 steps 18.1-18.3 illustrates enlarging the image at the determined enlargement ratio and printing the enlarged image.

The rejection of claims 6, 12, and 15 is similar to the rejection of claim 1.

2. Re. claims 5, 10, 14, and 19. Nishikawa in fig. 17 step 17.3 clearly illustrates the feature of the claimed invention.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

Art Unit: 2628

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 2-4,7-9, 11, 13, and 16-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nishikawa, and further in view of Ishizaka et al. US 2005/0052662 A1.

3. Re. claims 2, 3 and 7-8.

Nishikawa is silenced as to the image file identifying step further comprises selecting the image file. Ishizaka at paragraph 0006 discloses displaying or printing of such digital images with high quality has been demanded with distribution of digital cameras. It's obvious the digital camera has numerous image files. Re. claims 3 and 8, the digital camera can be considered as an outside source. Ishizaka at [0026] discloses that according to the invention, there is provided an image processing apparatus for performing enlargement processing of an original image represented by a large number of pixels to provide an enlarged image

Thus, it would have been obvious to a person skill in the art to incorporate the digital images of Ishizaka into Nishikawa in order to obtain a selection of image files, because Ishizaka's processing method, and an image processing program for performing the enlargement processing using a computer, with Nishikawa's printing control for printing an image upon enlarging the same. It's very beneficial to selective user to locate the image file quickly.

4. Re. claims 16-17, the rejection is similar to the rejection of claims 2-3, and 7-8.

5. Re. claims 4, 9 and 13.

Nishikawa is silenced as to the number of pixels is extracted from header information stored in the identified image file. Ishizaka at paragraph 0006 discloses when the objective image

is again formed from the set of the range block positions; coordinate conversion, and pixel value conversion, the operation of assigning the result of performing coordinate conversion and pixel value conversion to range block for any initial image to domain block is iterated. Ishizaka at paragraph 0117 teaches the enlarged image corresponding to the original image is stored in the enlarged image data storage section 58 and the enlarged image is updated. The enlarged image data obviously contains the number of pixels.

Thus, it would have been obvious to a person skill in the art to incorporate the enlarged image data storage section 58 of Ishizaka into Nishikawa in order to extract the number of pixels from header information stored in the identified image file, since Ishizaka's processing method, for storing the enlarged image data in storage section using a computer, and Nishikawa's printing control for printing an image upon enlarging the same. The user may quicker select the proper information on display.

6. Re. claim 11. Nishikawa is silenced about the features in claim 11, however, Ishizaka illustrates in table 1, under paragraph 0123. Thus, it would have been obvious to a person skill in the art to incorporate the enlarged image data storage section 58 of Ishizaka into Nishikawa in order to extract the number of pixels from header information stored in the identified image file, since Ishizaka's processing method, for storing the enlarged image data in storage section using a computer, and Nishikawa's printing control for printing an image upon enlarging the same. The user may quicker select the proper information on display.

7. Re. claim 18, the rejection is similar to the rejection of claim 4.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

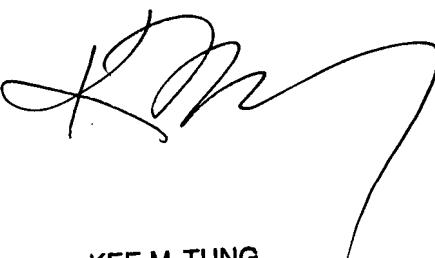
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Javid A. Amini whose telephone number is 571-272-7654. The examiner can normally be reached on 8-4pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kee Tung can be reached on 571-272-7794. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Javid A Amini
Examiner
Art Unit 2628

J.A.



KEE M. TUNG
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER